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Assistant Director for Policy Coordination

Assistant Director for Reports and Estimates

25 AUG 1950

OPC Project [REDACTED] 25X1A2g

Reference: Memorandum from the AD/OPC to AD/ORE, dated 18 August 1950,  
Subject as Above

1. ORE concurs in the objective of the reference project but does not concur in all aspects of the proposed organization and procedure to accomplish the objective.

2. CIA Regulation No. 10 charges the Office of Reports and Estimates with responsibility for the coordination of intelligence production activities and for the production of intelligence needed in the execution of operational decisions and courses of action. This Office regards the furnishing of intelligence support to OPC as one of its most important missions.

3. The facilities generally available to CIA for the production of intelligence for OPC are threefold:

a. Intelligence producing components of CIA (ORE, by the nature of its responsibilities will be the major producer).

b. Departmental intelligence agencies.

c. External Research facilities.

To date none of these facilities has been used in the most efficient manner. To use them efficiently it will be necessary to examine concurrently:

a. The intelligence needs of OPC.

b. Production currently in progress in CIA and in the IAC agencies.

c. Research in progress in external facilities.

d. The materials and skills available in all intelligence agencies and in external facilities.

The allocation of a particular project, or part of a project, in support of OPC must be based on substantive considerations that can be made only after such an examination. ORE is informed of work in progress

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in the IAC agencies and in the universities and has a good knowledge of their facilities. Programs for the integration of intelligence production in both governmental and external facilities are also well under way. A program for the production of Psychological Intelligence has recently been completed in ORE and will be of particular interest to OPC. The allocation of projects under this program has yet to be made, but both Governmental and external facilities will probably be used.

4. The establishment of a master project for external research, as recommended by OPC, would be the most expeditious and efficient manner of arranging contracts for specific projects. Its implementation out of context with other external research activities of the intelligence agencies and the production programs of the agencies themselves would lead, however, to duplication of effort, confusion of contacts, and the unnecessary expenditure of funds. It might also result in OPC receiving intelligence of inadequate quality.

5. The most efficient way of obtaining for OPC all the intelligence support that it needs would be to negotiate its intelligence requirements directly with the ORE Plans and Policy Staff, the ORE component charged with the formulation of production programs and the conduct of external research activities. The OPC requirements would then be broken down into specific projects with agreed terms of reference and allocated for production in the most expeditious manner through established channels. From the standpoint of ensuring an adequate understanding of OPC problems, it would be advisable to have one or more officers in the Plans and Policy Staff who were thoroughly conversant with OPC needs. This could be accomplished by indoctrinating ORE personnel now on duty or by assigning OPC personnel to the staff to carry out this job in its proper context. The latter course would probably be advisable inasmuch as OPC already has some personnel engaged in support work.

6. It is therefore recommended that:

a. The allocation of funds for the master project and the OPC internal clearance procedures be approved.

b. OPC designate a staff officer who shall be attached to the ORE Plans and Policy Staff to assist in the negotiation of intelligence support for OPC.

c. OPC inform ORE of its intelligence needs and negotiate the terms of reference and allocation of specific projects through the ORE central point.

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24 August 1950

Addressee O&amp;I

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THEODORE BARNETT